

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action mailed September 28, 2009, the Examiner has required restriction between the following groups of invention:

Group I: Claims 13-23, drawn to an apparatus for compensating for such deformations as occur on operation in first and second moveable clamping surfaces; and

Group II: Claim 24, drawn to a stress deformation compensation method.

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I, claims 13-23, for the purposes of examination. The foregoing election is made with traverse.

A review of the claims in the application show that Group II is formed by a single method claim. Applicants submit that it would work no hardship on the Examiner to examine claim 24 with the elected apparatus claims. The method claim clearly calls for an apparatus on a work surface which, when the press apparatus is in use, acts against the tool disposed in the press apparatus. Consequently, the method claim is related to the apparatus claim.

An early action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe an amendment is needed to place this case in condition for allowance, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fee is believed to be due as a result of this response.

Should the Director determine that a fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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